

SECRET

DPD 3441-59

20 May 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, PIC
Chief, SRS, DPD
Cover Officer, DPD

SUBJECT: Retention of 6" A-1 Cameras

1. During the lifetime of Project CHALICE, the 6" A-1 camera configuration has never been used for its intended purpose - obtaining calibrated photograph by upon which to base mapping and/or geodetic control computations. The A-1 has seen occasional use in procuring typhoon reconnaissance from Base C in the Far East. However, it is believed that photography of this type can be best accomplished with the "B" configuration or, if photo coverage of wider-spread climatological disturbances is desired, with the 24" A-2 system.

25X1 2. Continuing bench check-out and maintenance, flight test, maintenance of spare parts and procurement, shipment and storage of the special film required for the A-1 system imposes an unwarranted drain on Project resources in the face of non-existent requirements for use of this equipment. It is therefore proposed that unless sufficient requirements for use of the A-1 camera system can be established, this equipment (including 6" cameras and mounts - but not including 24" rocker) plus all spare parts and support items be returned to the ZI and placed in stand-by storage at [redacted] and that procurement of P-3-396 film be discontinued.

3. Stand-by storage rather than final disposition is recommended at this time since the A-1 system provides CHALICE with a mapping and geodetic control capability not possible with any other camera currently in the Project inventory. Since film can be procured on short notice, the capability can be re-activated and exercised at any time requirements may be generated in the future.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

SECRET

- 2 -

4. It is requested that the offices listed below either indicate concurrence with this proposal or forward any comments or anticipated future requirements which will justify retention of the 6" A-1 components in the overseas detachments.

SIGNED

25X1

Colonel USAF
Chief, Operations Branch, DPD

Concur:

Chief, PIC

25X1

Chief, SRS-DPD

25X1

RSQ:bmo

- 1 - Routed to addressee and returned Ops
- 1 - each addressee
- 1 - AC/DPD
- 1 - C/R&D
- 1 - C/Asst
- 1 - [redacted]
- 1 - Ops chron
- 1 - RI

25X1

SECRET